

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: OCTOBER 4, 2021

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice-President Robert B. Bray, Member Jack Dodd, County Attorney Alan Wilson, not in attendance was County Auditor Jessica Secrease.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jerry Asher and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Brad Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and President Wyman offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/ RECOGNITION:

SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

Commissioners congratulated County employee Debra Rahe. Miss. Rahe took it upon herself to complete the complex VA training program in the absents of the Veterans Service Officer, she is also certified to represent the American Legion. Since March Miss. Rahe has filed over six hundred VA benefit claims in the Kokomo office. Miss. Rahe has stepped up in this manor, it has allowed the New Veterans Service Officer to work on VA benefits and start a publicity campaign for VA benefits. It is with great honor that the Commissioners extended congratulations and the memento from Kokomo Opalescent Glass to her. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS:

Commissioners congratulated the following county employees, and Mr. Dodd read their Employee Service Awards into the record:

Employee	Years of Service
Renee Kinney	25
Kevin Augustine	25
Linda Sardin	25
Jeremy Lovall	20
Peggy Mallaber	20
Beth McNabb	15
Sandra Baldwin	15
Joseph Baldwin	15
Jared Kirkpatrick	15
Curt Rawlings	15
Charles Robert Jr.	10
Cynthia Davis	10
Amanda Richardson	5
Joshua Myers	5
Tobey Richards	5

INTRODUCTION OF A NEW HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF DEPUTY:

Sheriff Asher introduced Robert L. Duke II. As the new Sheriff Deputy. Mr. Duke is a lifelong Greentown, In. resident, currently working at the Howard County Jail. Mr. Duke was a 2014 Eastern High School Graduate, Graduated from Trine University where he participated in track and cross country. Howard County Clerk Debbie Stewart swore Mr. Duke in as a Howard County Sheriff Deputy.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the regular meeting held on September 20, 2021, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:

HOWARD COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE:

Introduction of the New County Extension Office Director:

County Extension Director Allision Hillis introduce herself as the New County Extension Director for Purdue Extension. Mrs. Hillis stated that she has been the Health and Human Science Extension Educator for the Extension Office for the last two years, she also severed as Bona Vista's Child Care Solutions Coordinator for twelve years.

Submitting quotes to lease or purchase a copy machine:

County Extension Director Allision Hillis submitted quotes for leasing of a copy machine Bizhud C450i in the amount of 60/mo FMV @ \$137.00 a month. This quote was reviewed and approved for the leasing of the copy machine Bizhud C450i in the amount of 60/mo FMV @ \$137.00 a month, this was approved with the balance this year to be taken out of Comp Cap Equipment Fund subject to the Auditor's final disbursement of funds as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT I:

Submitting quotes to lease or purchase a copy machine:

Howard County Superior Court I Judge William Menges submitted quotes for purchase a copy machine Bizhud 650i in the amount of \$8,465.00. These quotes were reviewed and approved for the purchase of the copy machine Bizhud 650i in the amount of \$8,465.00 and will be paid out of Comp Cap Equipment Fund, subject to the Auditor's final disbursement of funds as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Subdivision (Case 9-CP-21):

Planning Commissioner Greg Sheline submitted a new subdivision, Horner Estates Subdivision, located on a new lot at 1623 S. 500 W., Russiaville, Indiana. There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance. Horner Estates Subdivision has one lot and was approved, and it was also approved at the drainage board meeting with no remonstrance. With the new subdivision request having been heard, Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve Horner Estates Subdivision located at 1623 S. 500 W., Russiaville, Indiana as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Rezoning (Case 12-CZ-21):

Planning Commissioner Greg Sheline submitted Ordinance No. 2021-BCCO-38 for the rezoning of the property located at 1623 S. 500 W., Russiaville, Indiana from AG (Agricultural) to RR (Rural Residential). There was a favorable recommendation by the board. There was no remonstrance. With the rezoning request having been heard, Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-BCCO-38 as presented. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Opening sealed bids for the Garage Reconstruction Project:

County Highway Engineer Amber Tolle opened the sealed bid which was from Hearn Construction in the amount of \$1,005,090.00. The bid alternate one is for \$72,400.00 The bid from Hearn Construction in the amount of \$1,005,90.00 and the bid alternate for \$72,400.00 was submitted to be taken under advisement on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Change order #4 to #10 McCann Bridge Project:

County Highway Engineer Amber Tolle submitted that this is a zero dollar change order from # 4 to # 10 copper wire for the lighting under the McCann Street bridge for the pedestrian walk. Commissioners Dodd made a motion to approve the change order from #4 to # 10 copper wire for the lighting under the McCann Street bridge for the pedestrian walk, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:

Submitting quotes for replacing the chiller at the Jeff Stout Government Center:

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presented that the fifty-ton chiller on top of the Jeff Stout Government Center is needing replaced, Mr. Stonestreet stated that he would like to add \$9,000.00 to these quotes as he would like to introduce glycol freeze protection into the system. The first quote was \$71,600.00 from Frieje Engineered Solutions, Irish Mechanical out of Indianapolis, In. bid was \$71,400.00, North American out of North Lafayette, In. bid was \$69,996.00. Mr. Stonestreet is requesting that this project be paid by the American Rescue Plan Funding. Commissioner Dodd made a motion to approve the replacement of the fifty- ton Trane chiller at the Jeff Stout Government Center by North American from Lafayette, In. for a total cost of \$78,996.00 this includes the \$9,000.00 for glycol freeze protection, Mr. Stonestreet is requesting this project be paid by American Rescue Plan. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSSINESS:

Township Assistance Appeal:

Commissioner Dodd stated that the person filling the Appeal didn't show up for the Appeal appointment. Commissioner Wyman stated no Appeal, no action was taken.

Application Approval for a New Resident at Howard Haven:

Howard Haven Director Jennifer Brower submitted an application for a private-pay resident to be approved to move in on 10-4-2021, (the residents name is on file in the Auditors office). Commissioner Wyman stated as this is approved the resident is subject to a ninety-day probation period. The private-pay resident was submitted and approved subject to a ninety-day probation period as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on October 4, 2021, in the amount of \$865,366.52 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Payroll Expense:** The Commissioners' Payroll Expense, for payment on September 24, 2021, in the amount of \$865,366.52 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims for payment on September 20, 2021, in the amount of \$890,284.31 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

Redistricting / Reprecincting Project:

Attorney Alan Wilson has prepared two different orders with concerns on the Redistricting and Reprecincting Project for the drawling of the new precinct lines. Attorney Wilson ask Howard County Clerk Debbie Stewart to speak on the orders of Redistricting and Reprecincting Project, this is to possibly draw new precinct lines. Clerk Stewart stated that the first order is delegating authority for County Election Board, this is to draw and compare the existing lines to possibly create new lines that the County may have for the redistricting. Clerk Stewart stated that the second order is establishing precincts, if there are any precincts that will need to be established in the new redistricting. The two orders were submitted and approved and have been reviewed by the County Attorney Alan Wilson as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS ISSUES:

Commissioner President Paul Wyman recognized Mr. Stonestreet and the Maintenance Staff for all their hard work today setting up for the unveiling of the signage at the Jeff Stout Government Building.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

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